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From: Korleski, Christopher

Sent: Thur 12/8/2016 10:08:11 PM

Subject: East Chicago Drinking Water Update

Hey Bob:

We had a long call with both EC and IDEM staffs today to discuss and get comments on our draft script and FAQ. Both entities have now provided written mark-ups and/or provided a number of Qs and comments about our drafts. IDEM's comments will generally be easy to incorporate. EC's are more extensive, and some of their proposed revisions may be a little problematic for us.

I have told EC and IDEM that EPA will consider all the comments, Qs, and proposed language and draft a revised script and FAQ. I have promised that they will have a revised notification script tonight, in the hopes that all 3 parties can sign off on it in the morning and make notification calls tomorrow (Friday). We will do our best on the FAQ, but EC made extensive comments and is looking for a greater level of detail. Plus, EC is making the point that they think going forward with telephonic notification before the FAQ has been totally agreed upon by the parties is problematic. (In general, my sense is that EC is still wary of us going forward with notifications as quickly as tomorrow.)

I note that we have only talked to staffs. I <u>think</u> Commissioner Comer has reviewed IDEM's mark-up, and I think IDEM is fine with doing the notifications prior to the open house. The Mayor has not been on any of our calls, and I have no affirmative indication he is on-board with proceeding with the notifications on Friday.

This uncertainty raises the possibility of not making the notifications prior to the open house. Anne has developed a rough strategy for addressing this possibility, but for the moment I am going to continue to work towards enabling a Friday notification to the homeowners.

Thanks.

Chris Korleski

Director, Water Division, Region 5

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